



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

233 South Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606

312 454 0400
www.cmap.illinois.gov

Local Technical Assistance Program Associate Planner – Market Analysis Specialist (MAS2015) April 30, 2015

Company/Agency: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Job Category: Associate Planner
Experience Required: 3 to 5 years
Salary Range: \$54,000 to \$62,000

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is seeking to hire a full-time employee to help implement the Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program, with a specialty in market analysis and economic development. This position will be filled at the Associate level. Compensation will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

CMAP is the official regional planning organization for the northeastern Illinois counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will. CMAP developed and now guides the implementation of metropolitan Chicago's comprehensive regional plan, GO TO 2040, which was adopted unanimously by leaders from across the seven counties in fall 2010. To address anticipated population growth of more than 2 million new residents, GO TO 2040 establishes coordinated strategies that help the region's 284 communities address transportation, housing, economic development, open space, the environment, and other quality-of-life issues. See www.cmap.illinois.gov for more information.

Position Description

The LTA program was initiated in spring 2011 to create new resources for technical assistance and coordinate with existing technical assistance activities. It has resulted in a series of innovative local projects in the Chicago region that support livability principles, implement GO TO 2040, and build capacity in local communities. Over 100 projects have been completed to date, with 50 more underway. Projects include comprehensive plans, corridor or subarea plans, zoning revisions, studies of special topics such as housing or economic development, and similar planning activities. This program requires travel throughout the region; candidates must have the ability and willingness to work with communities across the region. To obtain more information on the LTA program, please visit www.cmap.illinois.gov/lta.

Qualifications and Skills

CMAP will recruit a planner at the Associate level with the knowledge, experience, and skills to assist in the implementation of local technical assistance projects, focusing on the intersection between transportation, land use, and economic development. This position will specifically focus on ensuring that the recommendations contained in LTA plans are market-feasible and promote long-term local and regional prosperity.

General qualifications and skills for the position include:

- Knowledge of local planning practice in northeastern Illinois, including plan and ordinance preparation, development review, and the role of appointed and elected officials.
- Understanding of the links between transportation, land use, housing, economic development, taxation, environment and natural resources, and community development.
- Ability to provide technical assistance, conduct trainings and workshops, and develop innovative, collaborative solutions to build local capacity.
- Experience working with elected officials and local government staff in designing and implementing policies, strategies, and regulatory approaches that support sustainability and address socioeconomic inequities.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Interest and ability to interact with partner agencies, local governments, and the general public.
- Ability to manage and contribute to complex projects and to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team.

Beyond these general qualifications, candidates should demonstrate experience and interest in economic development and market analysis. Specific qualifications and skills include:

- Enthusiasm for developing solutions for reinvestment in challenging sites and communities, and creativity in assessing options to do so.
- Experience conducting market analysis or otherwise assessing the market feasibility of projects across a range of communities and development types (i.e. residential, commercial, office, industrial, institutional). Specifically, experience in assessing

market potential for hard-to-develop sites in disinvested or struggling communities is desired.

- Ability to communicate both positive and negative market analysis findings in a clear and useful manner.
- Experience with real estate development and knowledge of the real estate development process.
- Relationships with, or at least knowledge of, significant partner organizations active in redevelopment in the Chicago region.
- Understanding of how transportation investment, land use regulation, and other government actions affect redevelopment potential.
- Substantive experience with relevant data sources, such as CoStar, ESRI Business Analyst, Dun and Bradstreet, and similar sources.
- Experience in communicating quantitative analyses in an accessible format, and in connecting market findings to the planning process. Also, experience in gauging market potential through more qualitative means, such as interviews with local brokers and developers.

Education and/or Experience

A Bachelor's degree in Planning or a related discipline is required, and a Master's degree is preferred. At least 2 to 5 years of work experience in planning is required for the Associate level. Past experience in market analysis or real estate development is particularly desirable.

Contact Information

Send resume, cover letter, and contact information with Job Code: **MAS2015**

Email: hresources@cmap.illinois.gov

Mail: Human Resources
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Emailed resumes will receive an auto receipt. Position open until filled. The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning is an Equal Opportunity Employer.